

**Hazel Roby, as Administratrix of the Estate
of Ronald Tyrone Roby, Deceased**

v.

Benton Express, Inc.

**Exhibit D
Plaintiff's Response to
Defendant's Reply Brief**

**Excerpts from the Deposition of
William George "Bill" Jones**

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1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
3 NORTHERN DIVISION

4

5 HAZEL M. ROBY, as Administratrix
6 of the Estate of RONALD TYRONE ROBY,
7 deceased,

8 Plaintiff,

 COPY

9

CIVIL ACTION FILE

10 vs.

11 NO. 2:05CV194-T

12 BENTON EXPRESS, INC., et al.,

13 Defendants.

14

15 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
16 GEORGE WILLIAM JONES

17

18 September 26, 2005

19 2:22 p.m.

20

21 1180 West Peachtree Street

22 Suite 900

23 Atlanta, Georgia

24

25 Lisa Fischer, CCR-B-1277, RPR, CRR

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1 Q. Being a regional manager, are you over
2 the Pensacola region?

3 A. At this point I am.

4 Q. I mean at that point, at the time.

5 A. Yes, sir. At that point, yes, sir, I
6 was in charge of that situation at that time.

7 I made that decision on my own to stop the
8 driver to relieve him of duty.

9 Q. Right. And what you're saying by that
10 point -- your actual territory is Atlanta,
11 right?

12 A. Georgia.

13 Q. Georgia?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. But being that you're in a higher
16 position than Glenn Clark, you made the
17 personal call to make the call in that
18 situation?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. Have you had an opportunity to go back
21 and look into any of the records concerning
22 when he first checked in and when he checked
23 out at the Atlanta terminal?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Were any records -- were all the

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1 physically inoperable because it may have
2 broke?

3 A. No, sir.

4 Q. So you don't know specifically
5 anything about what caused this delay?

6 A. No, sir.

7 Q. Anybody at Benton Express that's told
8 you about specifically what was going on with
9 Craig Stephens in his employ that caused this
10 delay?

11 A. No, sir.

12 Q. So even without knowing whether or not
13 he was hijacked or ill or some very legitimate
14 explanation for what occurred, your saying that
15 you were going to relieve him of duty means you
16 were going to investigate further on whether or
17 not you would ultimately terminate him, or does
18 it mean you were going to terminate him?

19 A. I had been --

20 MR. BROCKWELL: Object to the form.

21 THE WITNESS: I had been
22 investigating for 24 to 48 hours.

23 Q. (By Mr. Boone) Got you.

24 A. The gentleman would have been
25 terminated. It would have been up to somebody

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1 else to decide whether he would have a job in
2 the future with Benton Express, because I would
3 have terminated him.

4 Q. And my question to you is: What
5 information, other than the fact that you
6 couldn't locate him, did you discover in this
7 investigation?

8 A. None.

9 Q. So you don't have a clue what
10 happened?

11 A. Not a clue, except for my tractor, our
12 tractor and our trailer and our customer's
13 product couldn't be found. It was not at the
14 destination it should have been six and a half,
15 five hours later.

16 Q. And based on what you were personally
17 doing in your role at Benton Express, based on
18 your experience there and obviously the
19 position you hold, you would have felt the
20 decision should be termination?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And the only thing I'm trying to
23 do -- and I hate to repeat the question, but a
24 couple of depositions, every time -- if I asked
25 a question of was there some more information,